2.6 Other Areas

In the 1960s, tests were conducted at the Area IV to determine how deeply falling radioisotope heat sources would penetrate the soil. During one of these tests a 1-kg slug of depleted uranium was lost after being dropped from a helicopter. No documentation was found to suggest the slug was ever recovered. The area where the slug was dropped has been surveyed several times and contamination has not been detected. Further reconnaissance is planned to recover the missing slug.

2.7 Future Operational and Research Programs

All the DOE Area IV operational and research programs were completed in 1998. The DOE has no future research programs planned for Area IV. Since 1998, all the DOE-directed activities in Area IV have focused on closure activities including assessment and cleanup of radiological and chemical contamination of facilities and environmental media.